GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3150
ANSWERED ON:23.12.2003
STUDY REPORT ON FLUOROSIS IN DRINKING WATER
GANGASANDRA SIDDAPPA BASAVARAJ;IQBAL AHMED SARADGI

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Government has commissioned a study on the extent of fluorosis in drinking water and decided to launch a special programme to tackle the problem as part of a Rs. 12,545 crore plan to provide drinking water to all villages by 2004:

(b) if so, whether the Government has received/ examined this study report; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the government thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL)

(a),(b) &(c) : Drinking water supply is a State subject. The Government of India supplement the efforts of the States in ensuring drinking water supply to all rural habitations by providing assistance to States under a Centrally Sponsored Programme called Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP). 15% of the funds released under ARWSP are meant for Sub-Missior programmes to tackle quality problems in drinking water including those created due to excess fluoride, based on the surveys and studies conducted.

For addressing the quality issues, exclusive Sub-Mission have been constituted for launching preventive and remedial measures. 100 schemes for tackling quality problems in 18 States costing about Rs. 1231.54 crore were approved up to 31.3.1998 after which powers to sanction quality mitigation schemes were delegated to State Governments.